

DOCKET NO: 293602US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
ORAL AYDIN, ET AL. : EXAMINER: ZHAO, X. S.
SERIAL NO: 10/588,213 :
FILED: AUGUST 2, 2006 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1714
FOR: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE :
APPLICATION OF AT LEAST TWO
CHEMICALLY DIFFERENT FLOWING
MEDIA

REPLY BRIEF

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

The following Reply Brief is in reply to the Examiner's Answer dated October 19, 2010 (Answer).

The statement of the Grounds of the Rejection, to the extent relevant here (Answer at 6-8) is identical to the statement in the Final Rejection, except the statement at page 7, lines 8-9 of the Answer that "[i]n addition, since the layers are eventually dried, the drying is also considered as a type of gelling" with regard to Claims 18 and 19.

The statement of the Grounds of the Rejection, except that discussed above, has already been responded to in the Appeal Brief. The following is in reply to the additional statement, and the Response to Argument (Answer at 9-10).

Applicants reiterate that the present appeal is of only Claims 18, 19 and 21-23.

There is no basis for the Examiner's finding that drying is a type of gelling (Answer at 7).

Regarding the rejection of Claims 18 and 19, neither Hughes et al nor Yoshioka et al disclose or suggest a layer comprising a cationic polymer next to a layer comprising an anionic polymer. At best, as the Examiner finds, Yoshioka et al discloses using a dispersing agent, which may be, *inter alia*, an anionic or a cationic surface active agent, for dispersing their silver salt of an organic acid into solid fine grains (column 18, lines 31-46). However, this is a far cry from suggesting two separate layers, one using an anionic surface active agent, and the other using a cationic surface active agent.

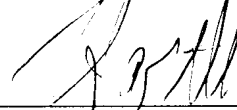
Regarding Claims 21-23, the Examiner simply asserts that “one cannot show unobviousness by attacking references individually when the rejection was based on combination of references” (Answer at 10).

In reply, for Claim 21, for example, the Examiner finds that Yoshioka et al discloses a hardening agent, which may be a polyisocyanate. But the Examiner has not pointed to any combination of a layer based on a dispersion next to another layer containing a polyisocyanate. Nor for Claim 22 has the Examiner established where such a combination is disclosed together with a layer comprising a cross-linking agent applied therewith. Nor for Claim 23 has the Examiner pointed out where in Yoshioka et al a layer based on one member of the Markush group therein is next to a layer of another member of the Markush group therein.

For all the above reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be REVERSED.

Respectfully submitted,

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